

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7-10, 13-16, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,969,343 to Nakamura et al. Applicants have cancelled claims 1-4, 7-10, 13-16, and 19 without prejudice. Accordingly, the rejection of these claims is not addressed herein.

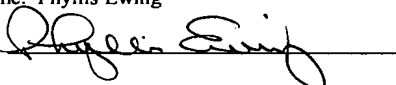
The remaining claims (claims 20-24) are allowed. Accordingly, Applicant requests the Examiner to pass the application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge Deposit Account No. 08-2025, under Order No. 10003834-1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV482746177US in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date of Deposit: December 23, 2004

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Respectfully submitted,

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